



## Washington State Senate

September 18, 2000

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Water Quality Program  
Department of Ecology  
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Department of Ecology  
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Lacey, WA. 98504-7600

Dear Sirs:

We want to take this opportunity to thank you for your participation at the community meeting at the Enumclaw Public Library on September 13 to hear citizen concerns about the administration of the dairy nutrient management program. It is very reassuring when the supervisors in a governmental agency can objectively review the actions of its subordinates and take the positive corrective action that you outlined to the audience at the library.

There were a number of key commitments that were made by the Department of Ecology which were clearly noted by those in attendance but not provided in a written statement, including the extension of deadlines in the notices of correction. Along with the new time guidelines, please provide your policy statements regarding:

1. The question of seasonal ponds that form on pastureland and fields during the rainy season. Our understanding is that Ecology will not assess a fine if manure is found in ponds on these farmed areas unless the nutrients find their way into a stream or aquifer and,
2. The issue of fines being levied for the "potential to pollute." Our understanding is that the department will no longer assess fines based on a "potential to pollute" but rather, only for an actual discharge to a stream or aquifer.

Again, thank you for your participation and willingness to take appropriate action.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Pam Roach in black ink.

Pam Roach, Senator  
31<sup>st</sup> District

Handwritten signature of Marilyn Rasmussen in black ink.

Marilyn Rasmussen, Senator  
2<sup>nd</sup> District